

contains a closure member (7) which is slidably displaceable relative the dust bowl (5) so as to simultaneously close a first air inlet (33) into the dust bowl (5) while opening a second air flow path (61) to the dust bowl (5) that is remote from the first air flow path (33). The second air flow path allows an external hose connector to be coupled in air flow communication with the dust bowl. The closure member (7) comprises a slidable shuttle cassette.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following rewritten claims in clean form. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Claim Amendments showing a marked up version of each amended claim.

Please cancel Claims 1-58 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add the following new claims 59 - 87.

59. (New) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a removable dust collection module which forms part of an air flow path through

the vacuum cleaner; and

a closure member arranged to be moved relative to the collection module so as simultaneously to close a first air flow path into the dust collection module and to open a second air flow path into the dust collection module that is remote from the first dust flow path, and vice versa.

60. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein the dust collection module comprises first and second air inlets, and movement of the closure member acts simultaneously to cover the first air inlet and to uncover the second air inlet and vice versa, thereby simultaneously closing the first air flow path into the dust collection module and opening the second air flow path into the dust collection module, and vice versa.

61. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein the dust collection module comprises first and second air inlets that are on a common surface of the dust collection module.

A2 62. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 61, wherein the closure member comprises a shuttle member that can be slid relative to the dust collection module simultaneously to cover the first air inlet and uncover the second air inlet, and vice versa.

63. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein:
the dust collection module comprises first and second air inlets;
the closure member comprises a shuttle member that comprises first and second openings the closure member can be moved relative to said air inlets so that in a first shuttle position the first, but not the second, air inlet of the dust collection module of the vacuum cleaner registers with the first opening; and

in a second shuttle position the second, but not the first, air inlet of the dust collection module registers with the second opening.

64. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 63, wherein the closure member is moved relative to said air inlets so that in a first shuttle position the first air inlet of the dust collection module of the vacuum cleaner registers with the first opening but the second air inlet of the dust collection module is not in register with the second opening, and in a second shuttle position the second air inlet of the dust collection module of the vacuum cleaner registers with the second opening, but the first air inlet of the dust collection module is not in register with the first opening.

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65. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 64, wherein at least one of the openings comprises an aperture.

66. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein the closure member is at least partly contained within the dust collection module.

67. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein the closure member has a surface that corresponds in shape to at least part of an inwardly facing surface of the dust collection module.

68. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein the dust collection module comprises a pair of air inlets, and the closure member is located adjacent an inlet-containing surface of the dust collection module.

69. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, wherein the closure member is in contact with the inlet containing surface throughout its movement relative to the dust collection module.

A2 70. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 59, further comprising a backing plate positioned to locate the closure member between the backing plate and the dust collection module.

71. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 70, wherein the backing plate is positioned to provide a channel between itself and a surface of the dust collection module, in which said channel the closure member can slide.

72. (New) For a vacuum cleaner, a dust collection module which in use forms part of an air flow path through the vacuum cleaner, the dust collection module component part(s) comprising:

first and second air inlets; and

a closure member in the form of a shuttle member that can be slid to the component part(s) simultaneously to cover the first air inlet and uncover the second air inlet, and vice versa, whereby the air flow path into the component part(s) can be changed.

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73. (New) The dust collection module of claim 72, wherein the air inlets are disposed in a common surface of the dust collection module.

74. (New) The dust collection module of claim 72, wherein the closure member comprises a shuttle member having first and second openings, and the closure member can be moved relative to said air inlets so that in a first shuttle position the first, but not the second, air inlet is in register with the first opening, and in a second shuttle position the second, but not the first, air inlet is in register with the second opening.

75. (New) The dust collection module of claim 74, wherein one of said first and second openings comprises one of an aperture and a tubular inlet.

76. (New) The dust collection module of claim 72, wherein the closure member has a surface that corresponds in shape to at least part of an inwardly facing surface of the module.

77. (New) The dust collection module of claim 72, wherein the closure member is located adjacent an inlet containing surface of the module.

78. (New) The dust collection module of claim 77, wherein the closure member is located adjacent an inwardly facing surface of the said inlet containing surface.

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79. (New) The dust collection module of claim 78, wherein the closure member is in contact with, and remains in contact with, the inlet containing surface throughout its movement.

80. (New) The dust collection module of claim 79, comprising a backing plate positioned to locate the closure member between itself and the module.

81. (New) The dust collection module of claim 80, wherein the backing plate is positioned to provide a channel between itself and a surface of the module, in which channel the closure member can slide.

82. (New) The dust collection module of claim 81, wherein the closure member has a surface that corresponds in shape to at least part of an opposed surface of the backing plate.

83. (New) A vacuum cleaner comprising:


a dust collection component which in use forms part of an airflow path through the vacuum cleaner, the component including first and second air inlets;

A2 a shuttle member supported by said dust collection component, said shuttle member comprising at least one aperture and an airflow blocking portion, said shuttle member being movable slidably relative to said dust collection component;

said shuttle member being movable from a first position, wherein said aperture is in airflow communication with said first air inlet and said airflow blocking portion blocks said second inlet, to a second position wherein said aperture is not in airflow communication with said first air inlet and said airflow blocking portion is not blocking said second inlet.

84. (New) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a dust collection component which in use forms part of an airflow path through the vacuum cleaner, the component including spaced apart first and second air inlets;

 a shuttle member supported for slidable movement relative to said dust collection component, said shuttle member including first and second spaced apart openings and first and second airflow blocking portions;

said shuttle being movable from a first position wherein said first opening communicates with said first air inlet and said second airflow blocking portion blocks said second air inlet, to a second position wherein said second opening communicates with said second air inlet and said first airflow blocking portion blocks said first air inlet.

85. (New) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a dust collection component which in use forms part of an airflow path through the vacuum cleaner;

a shuttle member movable slidably generally linearly relative to said dust collection component;

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said shuttle member providing a first airflow path for dirt entrained air into said dust collection component when said shuttle is in a first position; and

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said shuttle member providing a second airflow path for dirt entrained air into said dust collection component when said shuttle is moved into a second position.

86. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein said shuttle member blocks said second airflow path when said shuttle member is providing said first airflow path.

87. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein said shuttle member blocks said first airflow path when said shuttle member is providing said second airflow path.

